



URBAN DISTRICT OF WHITTLESEY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1972

OFFICERS OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health:

D.C. Logan, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector:

D.A. Bamford, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Surveyor and
Public Health Inspector:

J.B. Stocks

OFFICES OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council
Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
9, Queen Street,
Whittlesey.

Telephone Number

Whittlesey 2224

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	23,362
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,667
Rateable Value (at 31.12.72)	£413,495
Product of 1P rate (at 31.12.72)	3,768.04
Population (Registrar General's Figures)	10,560

TO:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,


I wish to present my Annual Report on the health of the population of Whittlesey for the year 1972.

I take the opportunity of expressing my gratitude to the Clerk of the Council for the help and advice which he has readily given over the years I have been Medical Officer. He has always been easily approachable and prompt in dealing with any matter about which I have sought his wise counsel.

I also take much pleasure in placing on record my indebtedness to my colleagues Mr. Bamford, Mr. Stocks and Mrs. Tyers for the devoted work they have put in during the year which has greatly helped to make the work of the department so rewarding and satisfying.

I have the honour to be,
Your most obedient servant,

D.C. LOGAN
Medical Officer of Health



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VITAL STATISTICS

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	91	91	182
Illegitimate	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>
Total:	<u>95</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>192</u>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population

Whittlesey Urban District	-	18.2
Whittlesey Urban District adjusted	-	17.8
England and Wales	-	14.8

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births 5

This rate (5%) is double what it was last year but it is still well below the figure of 8.75% in 1968. The Abortion Act of 1967 continues to work well in this area.

STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
Total:	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	10
England and Wales	-	12

Two stillbirths occurred during the year giving a rate of 10 stillbirths per 1000 live and stillbirths. This compares with the rate of 12 per 1000 for England and Wales. One death was associated with a severe defect of the central nervous system and the other with an unfortunate position of the umbilical cord, unforeseeable and unpreventable with birth through the natural channel.

TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	91	92	183
Illegitimate	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>11</u>
	<u>96</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>194</u>

INFANT DEATHS (Death under one year)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total:	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Total Live Births

Whittlesey Urban District	26
England and Wales	17

Five infant deaths took place during the year giving a rate of 26 deaths per 1000 live births compared with 17 deaths per 1000 for England and Wales. Four of the deaths were associated with prematurity which is a considerable handicap to the new born. The fifth death was of a child who had multiple foetal abnormalities incompatible with continued survival.

<u>Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births</u>	27
<u>Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births</u>	0

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)

Whittlesey Urban District	-	26
England and Wales	-	12

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)

Whittlesey Urban District	-	36
England and Wales	-	22

MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of Deaths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	0
England and Wales	-	111

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	0
England and Wales	-	0.15

DEATHS (ALL CAUSES)

	<u>Male</u> 59	<u>Female</u> 41	<u>Total</u> 100
<u>Death Rate</u> - per 1,000 estimated population			
Whittlesey Urban District	-		9.5
Whittlesey Urban District adjusted	-		11.3
England and Wales	-		12.1

Causes of Death in the Whittlesey Urban District, as supplied by the Registrar General for 1972

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Cholera	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-
Bacillary Dysentery and amoebiasis	-	-
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	-	-
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	-	-
Late effects of respiratory tuberculosis	-	-
Other tuberculosis	-	-
Plague	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Streptococcal sore throat and scarlet fever	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
Smallpox	-	-
Measles	-	-
Typhus and other rickettsioses	-	-
Malaria	-	-
Syphilis and its sequelae	-	-
All other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
Malignant neoplasm intestine	1	3
Malignant neoplasm lung bronchus	7	1
Malignant neoplasm breast	-	-
Malignant neoplasm uterus	-	1
Malignant neoplasm of buccal cavity and pharynx	1	-
Malignant neoplasm of oesophagus	-	-
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	-	2
Malignant neoplasm of larynx	-	-
Other malignant neoplasms	1	2
Malignant neoplasm of prostate	-	-
Leukaemia	1	-
Benign neoplasms and neoplasms of unspecified nature	-	-
Diabetes mellitus	-	1
Avitaminoses and other nutritional deficiency	-	-
Other endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	-	-
Anaemias	-	-
Other diseases of blood and blood forming organs	-	-
Mental disorders	-	-
Meningitis	-	-
Multiple sclerosis	-	-
Other diseases of nervous system	1	-
Active rheumatic fever	-	-
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	-
Hypertensive disease	1	-
Ischaemic heart disease	19	11
Other forms of heart disease	5	5
Cerebrovascular disease	1	10
Other diseases of the circulatory system	3	-
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	8	3
Bronchitis, emphysema	-	-
Asthma	-	-
Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	-
Peptic ulcer	2	-
Appendicitis	-	-
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	-	-
Cirrhosis of liver	-	-
Other diseases of the digestive system	-	-

Causes of Death in the Whittlesey Urban District, as
supplied by the Registrar General for 1972 (continued)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
Other diseases of the genito-urinary system	-	-
Abortion	-	-
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium	-	1
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	-	-
Diseases of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	-	-
Congenitive anomalies	-	1
Birth injury, difficult labour and other hypoxic conditions	4	-
Other causes of perinatal mortality	-	-
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	-	-
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
All other accidents	2	-
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	-	-
All other External causes	-	-
	<u>59</u>	<u>41</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The outstanding feature of the year has been the outbreak of infective hepatitis, a disease which is characterised by the appearance of jaundice (yellow colouration of the skin), The disease runs a course of several weeks and in the vast majority of cases clears up entirely, but it is responsible for patients being very unwell and requiring to rest for several weeks. There is no satisfactory means of prevention at present.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during 1972 :-

<u>Diseases</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Infective Hepatitis	48	41	89
Scarlet Fever	7	6	13
Measles	1	2	3
Whooping Cough	2	-	2
Dysentery	1	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	1	1
Viral Meningitis	1	-	1
	<u>60</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>110</u>

TO:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my nineteenth Annual Report for the Urban District covering the year 1972.

There has been no major item of importance during the year other than the Bonus Scheme for Refuse Collection Workmen finishing the trial period early in the year and being accepted as permanent. The Scheme has resulted in an increased output and allowed the workmen to earn more money. It has also provided a more regular collection service to the households, but has highlighted the need to have good vehicles which are well maintained.

Although Local Authority Housing has been at a standstill, plans for the three schemes are well under way. The Private Sector Housing is well catered for by the several Private Estate Developments. To provide land for persons wishing to have a dwelling to their own design the Council developed and sold 28 building plots which met with a good response.

I have to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their support throughout the year and to acknowledge the continued help received from the Clerk of the Council and Medical Officer of Health.

The good work done by Mr. Stocks is appreciated and Mrs. Tyers has continued to give helpful and efficient service to the public and her colleagues.

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. A. BAMFORD

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The South Lincolnshire Water Board continues to supply water to a high standard to the district, details listed below:-

(a) Quantity of Water Supplied

(i) Total during the year - 182,868,000 gallons

This was an increase
of 12,889,000 gallons
(7.6%) over 1971.

(ii) Average daily consumption - 500,000 gallons

(iii) per capita consumption - 48.1 gallons/head/day

(b) Mains Laid

The following mains were laid in the Urban District during the year :-

Eastrea, Mayfield Estate - 368 metres of 102mm dia.

64 metres of 50mm dia.

Whittlesey, Horsey Lane Gas Station - 60 metres of 457mm dia.
(Trunk main diversion)

Whittlesey, Aliwal Road - 119 metres of 76mm dia.

(c) Water quality

All the water supplied to the Urban District originated from the source works at Wilsthorpe, Tallington and Etton.

Regular Weekly samples of raw and treated water from each source of supply and from points within the distribution system were taken throughout the year and submitted for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory at Peterborough. In the vast majority of cases the results of these examinations were satisfactory, but slight trouble was experienced towards the end of the year with bacteriological pollution of the raw water at the Wilsthorpe source. The chlorination control equipment installed ensured that all water put into supply from this station was of a satisfactory quality.

CARAVANS

The first stage of the Commons Road caravan site has now been completed making a total of fifteen fully residential caravans now installed. The work on the second stage is well under way.

Planning approval has been received for the West Delph site to be extended and brought up to standard and work has been commenced. This site when completed will add a further sixteen licensed caravans.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Contract for the extension to the Sewage Works, pumping station and rising and gravity mains, is proceeding. This will, as mentioned last year, enable further domestic and industrial development.

NIGHTSOIL COLLECTION

The Council employs a Contractor to empty pails, vaults and cesspools at properties which cannot be connected to the sewer. The Contractor empties pail closets three times in every fortnight and septic tanks and cesspools are emptied free on request twice a year.

The conversion of properties from pail closets and septic tanks with the aid of improvement grants continues satisfactorily.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The bonus scheme is now well established and the reduction of the labour force, by natural wastage, to the figures provided for in the scheme, has benefitted the area in general by the increase in efficiency obtained.

The refuse is collected by direct labour and two vehicles are used. The town is collected by a 35 cu. yd. vehicle with compressor which is driven by the foreman and has four loaders. The outside areas are collected weekly using a 25 cu. yd. vehicle.

Routine servicing and washing of the vehicles is done by the drivers. Repairs are carried out by local garages.

Number of bins collected during the year	222,957
Town round weekly average	2,799
Outside area weekly round	1,487

REFUSE DISPOSAL

The existing refuse tip in New Road has now been landscaped, seeded and trees have been planted. The gravel workings previously purchased have now been put to use.

The cost of the disposal is now very much greater due to the Contractor who has to operate the site with heavy plant and maintain adequate and controlled tipping.

The two part time tip attendants have been dispensed with.

Rat infestation in the new tip is virtually non-existent although regular poison baiting is still carried out and the occasional body found.

The Councils policy of maintaining the disposal site open on a seven day basis has resulted in a considerable drop in the amount of rubbish found in dykes, hedgerows etc. The land used for the disposal of unwanted vehicles is also being utilised and few abandoned vehicles are being found. A Contractor then has the responsibility of removing the scrap from the site.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES

Routine visits are continuing to be carried out to registered premises and in the main facilities and standards would appear to be improving.

No accidents of any sort were reported during 1972.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

SWIMMING BATHS

The Council has an open air heated swimming pool in the Manor Field, Station Road. The pool is 110 feet long and 42 feet wide. The manager carries out tests twice daily, more frequently in times of heavy loads, and by careful control of the continuous filtration and chlorination plant a satisfactory standard was maintained. Bacteriological samples of the water were also satisfactory.

PETROLEUM INSPECTIONS

A complaint was investigated in which a large quantity of petroleum spirit was discharged into the subsoil of an adjoining garden and it was found that the main suction line had failed.

In view of a large proportion of installations in the district being 25 years or over an intensive campaign has been instituted to assess the state of the old tanks. The results of this should be known by September next.

INSPECTIONS

The following table summarises the inspections made in 1972:-

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Informal Notices</u>	<u>Statutory Notices</u>
Cesspool, pail and vault work	73	4	-
Drainage	73	4	-
Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses	20	-	-
Slaughterhouses and Butchers shops	119	-	-
Food Shops	120	2	-
Restaurants	12	-	-
Verminous & Filthy Premises	-	-	-
Housing	770	11	-
Nuisances	63	6	-
Caravan Sites	37	-	-
Refuse Collection and Disposal	15	1	-

All notices served were complied with.

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION

The Rodent Contract continues to work well within the main, calls made the same day as the complaint.

ANNUAL REPORT ON RATS AND MICE

<u>Properties other than sewers</u>	<u>Type of Property</u>	
	<u>Non- Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
1. Number of properties in district	4544	362
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	127	12
(b) Number infested (i) Rats	47	6
by (ii) Mice	14	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	1370	12
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	17	3
(ii) Mice	-	-

No sewers were infested by rats during the year.

HOUSING

Number oh houses erected during 1972 :-

By Local Authority	Nil
By Private Enterprise	122 Houses & Bungalows

26 applications were made for Improvement Grants and 26 were approved. 18 applications for Standard Grants were received, 22 were approved and received grants.

6 Notices of Time and Place to consider the condition of 6 dwellings were served in the yeat and the following action was taken :-

Demolition Orders	3
Closing Orders	4

HOUSING ACT, 1969, PART III RENTS

Five applications for Qualification Certificates were received during the year. Seven Provisional Certificates and Ten Qualification Certificates were issued and none refused.

Landlords of rented property appear to be making more use of the Qualification Certificate procedure for bringing up to standard and also for the registration of Fair Rents on a property which meets the required standard. More and more landlords appear to be realising that a properly maintained house with a reasonable rent return is a far more economic proposition.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

Inspections made (under the Factories Act) for 1970

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	2	-	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced	53	20	-	-
Other Premises	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	55	22	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Number of Cases in which Defects were found Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Closet Unsuitable or Defective	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-

OUTWORK SECTIONS 110 & 111

There are no outworkers in the district.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

ICE-CREAM

There are 48 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream; all the ice-cream being pre-packed. The only loose ice-cream sold in the area is sold from vehicles.

There are no ice-cream manufacturing premises in the area.

CONDEMNED FOOD

Eleven certificates were issued covering 752 items of foodstuffs which were voluntarily surrendered by shopkeepers. Once more the incidence of refrigerator failure is still high and the majority of the items fall within this category.

FOOD PREPARATION

Premises registered for the making up of food	11
Fish Friers	3
Bakehouses	3
Cafes	3
Other food shops	39
Public Houses	27

Satisfactory food premises and food handling are of prime importance and it is essential for food handlers to learn the correct methods of dealing with modern food packaging, particularly frozen foods.

MEAT INSPECTION

Sheep

1 heart, lungs, liver pleurisy 10 lbs.

Pigs

2 heart, lungs, liver pleurisy 17½lbs.
1 liver necrosis 4½ozs.
1 kidney necrosis 4 ozs.
1 kidney cystic 4½lbs.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There is one modern privately owned licensed slaughterhouse in the area. It is well maintained and is capable of handling a much larger throughput than is being dealt with at present.

Number of animals killed :-

Cattle (exclud- ing cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
34	-	-	127	201	-

All animals killed in the slaughterhouse are inspected

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle (exclud- ing cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	34	-	-	127	201	-
Number inspected	34	-	-	127	201	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	1	5	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	-	-	-	0.78	2.48	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cystercercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

